SIKKIM

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

EXTRAORDINARY
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GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
HOME DEPARTMENT
GANGTOK

No. 25/HOME/2006. **DATED :20.3.2006.**

NOTIFICATION

I. The State Government is hereby pleased to declare the followings peaks open for Alpine Expedition with effect from 17th September, 2005.

Name of the peak (West Sikkim)	**Location**	**Grade**
Frey's Peak 5830 mtr	Chaurigang	AD+

Name of the peaks (North Sikkim)	**Location**	**Grade**
Lama Wangden 5868 mtr	Lachen	AD
Brumkhangse 5635 mtr	Yumthang	D

The following peaks already opened by the State Government vide Notification No. 54 (78) Home/84/30 dated 20th July, 1993 are renamed as Alpine peaks and included for Alpine Expedition along with the above three peaks.

Name of the peaks (West Sikkim)	**Location**	**Grade**
Mt. Tinchenkang	West Sikkim	D
Mt. Joponu	West Sikkim	D+

II. The permit for Alpine Expedition to above five peaks will be issued by the Home Department to only those local tour operators authorized and notified by Tourism Department for conducting the Alpine Expedition.

III. The royalty shall be paid under the Revenue Head of Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management Department. The procedure for obtaining permit from Home Department shall be as per Annexure 'A'.

The following royalty shall be levied for the expedition.

(a)	For foreign expedition team	:	US $ 350 per team of upto four members, US $ 500 per team of upto eight members and US $ 75 for every additional member.
(b)	For domestic expedition team	:	Rs. 15,000/- per team of upto eight members and Rs. 1,500/- for every additional member.
(c)	For local expedition team	:	Rs. 3,000/- per team of upto eight members and Rs. 300/- for every additional member.

IV. The tour operator shall be responsible for rescue operation, if any. The Tourism Department, however, shall render all legitimate assistance to the tour operators including coordination with different agencies.

V. The tour operator conducting expedition shall scrupulously adhere to the code of conduct for eco-tourism in Sikkim and abide by all the terms and conditions laid down by the State Government for conducting the expedition. The code of conduct and terms and conditions will be enclosed with the permit for Alpine Expedition in form 'D'. The violation of any of the conditions and code of conduct shall debar the tour operator from conducting further Expedition/s.

The Tourism Department will be responsible for ensuring that the trekking/expedition routes are kept litter free and conduct periodical cleaning operations, if necessary.

VI. The following minimum insurance coverage is compulsory.

(a)	Expedition members	:	Rs. 3 lakhs per member.
(b)	Camp crews	:	Rs. 1 lakh per person.
(c)	Porters	:	Rs. 50,000/- per person.
(d)	Animals	:	Rs. 20,000/- per animal.

VII. A total of 10 expeditions (6 foreign and 4 domestic) shall be permitted per year. However, the State Government may permit additional expedition, if such situation arises.

BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR.

N.D. CHINGAPA, IAS
CHIEF SECRETARY
F. No. Gos/Home-II/2005/14

FORM-A

FORMAT FOR APPLICATION BY TOUR OPERATOR FOR PERMISSION TO UNDERTAKE ALPINE EXPEDITION IN SIKKIM

- Name of the Alpine Peak :
- Height :
- Name and nationality of the leader of the expedition :
- Period of expedition :
- Date/Schedule :
- Proposed trekking and climbing route :
- Number of Crew Members :
- Name of the tour operator :
- Address :
- Contact Number (s) :
- Registration Number :
- Name of the Proprietor :
- Date of Submission of Form :

Document check list:

1. Personal particular of all the foreigners in Form B in duplicate with photograph.
2. Tour itinerary.
3. Photocopy of passport/Proof of Indian Citizenship.
4. Photocopy of Visa.
5. Summary of personal particular of foreigners with other detail.

Declaration:

1. It is hereby certified that the information provided is true to the best of our knowledge.
2. We agree to abide by all the terms and conditions laid down by the State Government for undertaking proposed expedition.

Signature:

Name:

Designation:

FORM-B

Photo

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
HOME DEPARTMENT

PERSONAL PARTICULAR FORM OF APPLICANT

01	Name of the applicant (in CAPITAL) letter	Mr./Mrs./Ms.
02	Father's/Husband's Name	Mr.
03	Place (town & country) & Date of Birth	
04	Nationality	1. Present: 2. Past:
05	Occupation (with address of the place of work, if employed)	
06	Mailing Address	
07	Permanent Address	
08	References: a) in Sikkim b) in the country of applicant	
09	(i) Passport Details (enclose photocopy) (ii) Proof of Indian Citizenship, if Indian (enclose photocopy)	
10	Details of Visa for India, if obtained (enclose photocopy)	
11	Places proposed to be visited	
12	Route intended to be followed	
13	Likely date of visit	
14	Purpose of visit	
15	Likely duration of visit	
16	Details of previous visit to Sikkim	
17	Have you previously visited any restricted/protected area in Sikkim, if so give details	
18	Has any earlier request for permit been refused, if so give details	
19	Insurance Policy No.	

The information given above is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of the Applicant

FORM-D

PERMIT FOR ALPINE EXPEDITION IN SIKKIM

I.	Name of the Alpine Peak and height.	:	
II.	Name of the leader of the Expedition	:	
III.	Number of Expedition team	:	
IV.	Detail of Expedition Team	:	List enclosed.
V.	Route to be followed	:	
VI.	Period of Expedition	:	
VII.	Name of the tour operator	:	
VIII.	Full Address with contact No.	:	
IX.	Name of the Liaison Officer with address and contact numbers	:	
X	Terms and conditions	:	List Enclosed

DEPUTY SECRETARY-II/HOME

Copy to:

1. Chief Warden, KNP.
2. Deputy Inspector General of Police, Check Post.
3. GSO-I (Int.,) 17, Mountain Division, C/o 99 APO.
4. Concerned District Collector.
5. Deputy Secretary, Adventure, Tourism.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. Scrupulously follow the enclosed Code of Conduct for eco-tourism in Sikkim.

2. State Government will detail a Liaison Officer for the expedition. The tour operator shall pay a lump sum fee of Rs. 5,000/- to the LO and they shall also bear the cost of their lodging and fooding during the period of expedition.

3. Emphasis should be on employment of local people as cook, porters, guide, etc.

4. The expedition team shall follow the approved trekking/climbing route only.

5. The expedition team leader and the tour operator shall submit their feedback on the expedition to Home Department, Government of Sikkim within seven days from the date of completion of the expedition.

6. The fees, royalty etc. paid for undertaking the expedition shall not be refundable unless the expedition is rendered impractical by natural calamity before reaching the base camp or cancellation of the expedition by the State Government.

7. The insurance coverage of expedition team, camp crews, porters and animals are compulsory.

8. The expedition team shall ensure that no defilement of sacred lakes, caves or rocks enroute is done.

9. The foreign expedition team shall hold valid Inner Line Permit with them.

10. Photography and entry into Army installations enroute is strictly prohibited.

11. The State Government reserves the right to cancel the permit at any time.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ECO-TOURISM IN SIKKIM

1. Conserve Sikkim's natural and cultural heritage

- Do not trample high altitude vegetarian; do not pick any flowers or medical plants.
- Do not disturb wildlife or its habitats.
- Do not allow clients to purchase endangered animal parts or antique cultural artifacts.
- Support local conservation efforts and income generation activities.

2. Avoid use of fuel wood; use alternative fuels

- Use kerosene, LPG (or other non-wood fuel) for all cooking, heating, lighting including that by staff and porters.
- Discourage campfires; encourage camp fun
- Follow safety rules when carrying, storing and using kerosene and gas.

3. Leave all camps and trials clean

- Separate and properly dispose of litter: burn burnable, bury biodegradable, and carry out all other non-biodegradable materials for deposit at designated trash site or for recycling
- Use toilet tents on all treks; set up and use toilet tents in an environmentally sound manner so as to avoid pollution of water sources (at least 100m away)
- Use established campsites and kitchen sites; avoid trenching around tents.

4. Practice conservation in the kitchen

- Avoid fuel-conservation menu items, e.g. baked foods and large menu selections.
- Re-package foods into reusable plastic containers to reduce waste.
- Suggest clients reduce waste by de-and repackaging also.

5. Practice proper hygiene and sanitation

- Teach all staff about personal hygiene, sanitary kitchen and camp routines.
- Properly treat the drinking water and uncooked vegetables for clients.
- Dispose of washing and bathing water well away from streams; use biodegradable soaps.

6. Take responsibility for staff and porter welfare

- Provide adequate warm clothing, sleeping cover, shoes, snow gear, food or cooking stoves and fuel, and take care of hired staff.
- Periodically train staff in first aid, guide responsibilities, sanitation, etc.

7. Properly brief clients before leaving on a trek

- Address cultural "do's" and ""don'ts"; environmentally friendly behavior, safety precautions, proper dress, and respect for local beliefs, peoples and religious sites.
- Plan days for proper altitude acclimatization when ascending; know how to identify and treat high altitude illness and how to provide emergency rescue.